

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are currently pending and under consideration. Claims 1, 2 and 10 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 4 and 9 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the rights to pursue canceled subject matter in one or more related applications. The amendments made herein are for clarification purposes only and are not intended to narrow the scope of the claims. No new matter is added by these amendments, and they are believed to place the claims in condition for allowance. The subject matter of the claims, as amended, is fully supported in the specification and claims as originally filed. Following entry of the amendments made herein, claims 1-3, 5-8, and 10 will be pending in the instant application.

I. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claim 2-5 and 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as their invention.

Applicants disagree that the claims are indefinite. However, merely to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 2 as per Examiner's recommendation. In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 2-5 and 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, has been obviated and should be withdrawn.

II. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because the specification allegedly does not enable the full scope of the claimed invention. Although Applicants disagree that the claims lack enablement, in order to expedite prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to recite a microbial purine nucleotide phosphorylase and pyrimidine nucleoside phosphorylase. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1 and 6 have been obviated. Applicants respectfully submit that rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

III CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendments and consideration of the foregoing remarks. Applicant believes the claims to be in condition for allowance. An allowance is earnestly requested.

Date: June 1, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

38,100

Francis D. Cerrito
Francis D. Cerrito

Reg. No.

Susie S. Cheng
By: Susie S. Cheng
JONES DAY

46,616

Reg. No.

222 East 41st Street
New York, N.Y. 10017-6702
212-326-3939